

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for determining a language for a user, comprising:

a first computer;

a directory entry for the user, the directory entry stored in the first computer and including identity information for the user;

location information for a location of a second computer from which the first computer can be accessed;

a ranker for ranking a plurality of languages based on at least the directory entry and the location information; and

a selector for selecting one of the plurality of languages with a highest rank.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the identity information includes the language.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a container hierarchy, the container hierarchy including at least a first container, the first container including a second container, the second container including the directory entry; and the second container including a default language.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the directory entry can inherit the default language from the second container.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for determining a preferred language for a user, comprising:

logging the user into a first computer from a second computer with login information; using the login information to identify a directory entry for the user; determining a first language from the directory entry for the user;

determining a second language based on a location of the user at the second computer; ranking the first and second languages; and selecting a highest ranked language as the preferred language.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein determining the first language includes determining the language from an identity information stored in the directory entry for the user.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein logging the user into a first computer includes:

accessing the directory entry for the user from the first computer; and locating the identity information in the directory entry.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein: determining the first language includes determining that no language is specified in the identity information in the directory entry; and the method further comprises inheriting the first language from a container of the directory entry.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6, wherein determining the second language includes:

determining the location of the user at the second computer; and identifying a default language for the location of the user at the second computer as the language.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein: the method further comprises determining a third language from a browser; and ranking the first and second languages includes ranking the first, second, and third languages.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, further comprising using the preferred language to display content to the user.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein using the preferred language includes sending the preferred language in a packet header from the first computer to a content provider.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media containing a program to determine a preferred language for a user, the program comprising:

logging software to log the user into a first computer from a second computer with login information;

using software to use the login information to identify a directory entry for the user;

identification software to identify a first language from the directory entry for the user;

identification software to identify a second language based on a location of the user at the second computer;

ranking software to rank the first and second languages; and

selection software to select a highest ranked language as the preferred language.

16. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 15, wherein the identification software to identify a first language includes determination software to determine the first language from an identity information stored in the directory entry for the user.

17. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 16, wherein the logging software includes:

accessing software to access the directory entry for the user from the first computer; and
location software to locate the identity information in the directory entry.

18. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 16, wherein:

the identification software to identify a first language includes determination software to determine that no language is specified in the identity information in the directory entry; and

the program further comprises inheritance software to inherit the first language from a container of the directory entry.

19. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 15, wherein the identification software to identify a second language includes:

determination software to determine the location of the user at the second computer; and
identification software to identify a default language for the location of the user at the second computer as the second language.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 15, wherein:
the program further comprises identification software to identify a third language from a browser; and

the ranking software includes ranking software to rank the first, second, and third languages.

22. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 15, further comprising using software to use the preferred language to display content to the user.

23. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 22, wherein the using software includes sending software to send the preferred language in a packet header from the browser to a content provider.

24. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:
a computer-readable modulated carrier signal;
means embedded in the signal for logging a user in to a first computer from a second computer with login information;
means embedded in the signal for using the login information to identify a directory entry for the user;

means embedded in the signal for identifying a first language from the directory entry for the user;

means embedded in the signal for identifying a second language based on a location of the user at the second computer;

means embedded in the signal for ranking the first and second languages; and

means embedded in the signal for selecting as a preferred language a highest ranked language.

25. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 24, wherein the means embedded in the signal for identifying the first language includes means embedded in the signal for determining the language from an identity information stored in the directory entry for the user.

26. (Currently Amended) An article according to claim 25, wherein the means embedded in the signal for logging the user into a first computer includes:

means embedded in the signal for accessing the directory entry for the user from the first computer; and

means embedded in the signal for locating the identity information in the directory entry.

27. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 25, wherein:
the means embedded in the signal for identifying the first language includes means embedded in the signal for determining that no language is specified in the identity information in the directory entry; and

the article further comprises means embedded in the signal for inheriting the first language from a container of the directory entry.

28. (Currently Amended) An article according to claim 24, wherein the means embedded in the signal for identifying the second language includes:

means embedded in the signal for determining the location of the user at the second computer; and

means embedded in the signal for identifying a default language for the location of the user at the second computer as the language.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 24, wherein:
the article further comprises means embedded in the signal for determining a third language from a browser; and
the means embedded in the signal for ranking means embedded in the signal for includes ranking the first, second, and third languages.

31. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 24, further comprising means embedded in the signal for using the preferred language to display content to the user.

32. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 31, wherein the means embedded in the signal for using the preferred language includes means embedded in the signal for sending the preferred language in a packet header from the browser to a content provider.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the identity information further includes a second language.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein determining a first language from the directory entry for the user includes determining the first language and a third language from the directory entry for the user.

36. (Previously Presented) A program according to claim 15, wherein the identification software includes identification software to identify a first language and a third language from the directory entry for the user.

37. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 24, wherein means embedded in the signal for identifying a first language from the directory entry for the user includes means embedded in the signal for identifying the first language and a third language from the directory entry for the user.

38. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein:
the first container includes a second default language; and
the directory entry can inherit the second default language from the first container.